IIM in Andhra Pradesh

658. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to locate an Indian Institute of Management near Guntur in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the plans of Government to establish new IIMs all over the country;

(d) whether Government would consider cities like Guntur, Coimbatore and other major commercial centres for locating IIMs; and

(e) the steps proposed in this regard to encourage cities, other than State capitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Hon'ble Prime Minister in his address to the nation on the occasion of the 60th Independence Day has, *inter-alia,* announced for setting up of seven new Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) in the country. One of these IIMs has been established in Shillong. However, decision on the location of the remaining institutions has not yet been taken.

SC's observation on doing justice by self

†659. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of doing justice by self and taking action by individuals have taken place during the last months;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that observations have been made by the Supreme Court on these incidents; and

(c) the details of the observations made alongwith Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Registry of the Supreme Court has informed that it is not aware of any comments made by the hon'ble Supreme Court on any such incident.

(c) Does not arise.

Supreme Court's report on manpower shortage in courts

660. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a report prepared by the Supreme Court has pointed out that manpower

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

shortage is responsible for backlog of cases and it reveals that the vacancies, both in the High Courts and District Courts, have had a direct bearing on the pendency of cases which has shown an increase over the quarters January-March and April-July, 2007;

(b) if so, whether Government has considered the report; and

(c) if so, by when Government is likely to increase or at least fill the present vacant posts in High Courts and District Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The Supreme Court has not sent any such report to the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Law Commission of India in its 120th report submitted in 1987 examined the question of judges' strength and suggested that the judges' strength which was 10.5 judges per 10 lakh of population at that time, had to be increased to 50 judges per 10 lakh of population within a period of 5 years. The Standing Committee of Parliament in its 85th Report submitted in February, 2002 endorsed the ratio recommended by the Law Commission. This issue was also discussed in a Joint Conference of Chief Justices chaired by the Chief Justice of India. In its judgement dated 21st March, 2002, in WP (Civil) No. 1022 of 1989, the Supreme Court directed increasing judges' strength to 50 judges per 10 lakh of population in a phased manner. Insofar as the judges' strength in the High Courts is concerned, Government reviews the matter triennially and after the last such review, Government has recently increased the strength of judges in the High Courts by 152 posts bringing the approved strength of judges in 21 High Courts to 944. The proposals for appointment of judges to the High Courts are to be initiated by the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.

Administration of justice up to the High Courts is a matter falling within the domain of responsibilities of the State Governments and it is for the respective State Government to decide on the matters of increase of posts of judges in the District Courts and filling up of vacant posts of judges in consultation with their respective High Courts. The Government has, however, from time to time taken up the matter of upgrading the judicial infrastructure with the State Governments. The matter of manpower shortage of non-judicial posts in High Courts and District Courts is within the domain of their respective High Courts and the State Governments.

With a view to reducing the pendency of cases in various courts, Government has taken many steps like that of setting up of Fast Track Courts, providing assistance to the State Governments and UTs for development of infrastructure of judiciary and has under implementation a scheme of computerization of all District and Subordinate Courts of the country and thereby enabling the linking of the lowest court of the country to the highest court electronically.

Declaration of assets by judges

661. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a resolution passed unanimously on the 7th May, 1997, at a meeting chaired by then Chief Justice of India and attended by twenty-two Supreme Court judges, had